



President's Message

by Paula Elias



Hello Manteca Garden Club Members,

We had a wonderful meeting in October! Thanks to all members who attended our meeting. The speaker was informative, telling us about fairy gardens and we sure had a lot of wonderful refreshments too! The table was beautifully set up in Fall decorations! A long time member said she remembers when the refreshment table was over by the sink and one month she was the only one who brought refreshments! Its not that way any more! Thanks to all of the members who sign up for refreshments and thanks to Gail Pace and Kay Harris for leading our refreshment time.

A big thank you to Eric Teberg for his wonderful sharing during Plant of the Month. Many members enjoy asking Eric questions each month too. Plant of the Month is a highlight at each meeting. We are thankful we have Eric in our club.

I can't believe it is November already and Thanksgiving is around the corner. It is my favorite time of the year! I love the pumpkins, autumn leaves and cool days. Right around the corner will be December and our holiday luncheon. Please make sure to sign up for the luncheon at our November meeting. Gloria has done a great job as VP over the last two years setting up our luncheons. She says it is some work, but is always fun too! Thank you Gloria!

As Thanksgiving approaches, I am thankful for all of our members who make the Manteca Garden Club successful. I wish you and yours a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Key Dates

Meeting

November 17
12:30 Refreshments
12:55 Meeting

Speaker

Dawn Dalyce, Member of the Succulent Society
Topic: Succulents

Reminder

December 15
12:00 noon

Holiday Luncheon

Chez Shari at Manteca golf course. Cost is \$20 and payment is due at November meeting if you plan to attend. You can still sign up at the November meeting or contact Gloria at 823-4815.

Master Gardener Workshops – Winter Pruning

November 8
10:00-11:30 am

Located at the City of Stockton Delta Water Project Building at 11373 N. Lower Sacramento Rd., Lodi (Off of Eight Mile Road). **Seating is limited to 30 for this class so please RSVP by November 7** at 953-6100 to guarantee your spot.

November 15
10:30-12:00 noon

Located at the Manteca Library, 320 W. Center St. Manteca.
Please RSVP by November 14th at 953-6100.

Gardening Chores for November

by Sandi Larson, Master Gardener



Here we are at the time of year when normally we'd be planting grass, trees, shrubs; even winter vegetable gardens can normally begin in November. This year I don't think that many folks are planting grass in their backyards. I believe most of the folks here are pretty conscientious. November is also a good month to look for spring bulbs in garden centers and home stores. Even when the rain begins (hopefully) you may need to hand water those plants and pots under eaves.

Gardening in raised beds is great for seniors. Some of our landscapers have planted lovely raised bed planters with wide walls for sitting on. When planning raised beds make sure that you can safely and easily reach the center of the bed or you'll be climbing in the raised bed to work it!

Some great trees for fall color are Chinese pistache, crape myrtle, many varieties of Japanese maple, eastern redbud, hawthorn, and ginko. Remember to water fairly frequently with newly planted shrubs and trees until our rainy weather starts. Some shrubs also look really pretty in the fall such as: oakleaf hydrangeas, pyracantha, snowball bush, and heavenly bamboo. If you want additional color let the rose hips ripen and turn red on your rose bushes. They make nice additions to your porpourri.

When you clean up your leaves this fall, make sure you pick up as much of the debris as you can to prevent rodents and snails and slugs a hiding ground. It will also make fertilizing your plants next spring a lot easier if the area around the roots is free.

I've noticed more and more folks are incorporating decorative grasses into their landscape. I love them especially this time of year when they're backlit by the sun. Simple to care for all you need to do is trim them back in the fall and watch it grow beautifully in the spring!

Now is a good time to purchase Amaryllis bulbs for yourself or as gifts. I usually purchase three or four and put them in individual pots and then in a large oblong pot covered on top with sphagnum moss. They look wonderful around the holidays if you can plant them in early November.

Frost is around the corner. We can get a frost anytime from November 1 going forward. That's when you will find out whether that plant your landscaper put in your yard is hardy or not hardy. I am always amazed that some of our local landscapers put in plants that normally die back in the winter but the homeowner is surprised when it dies back; an example of that is the tropical hibiscus tree. I've seen these planted in several yards recently. I am not aware that they survive that well here in our climate without lots of things like lights, extra heavy mulch, possibly frost cloth. I just saw an article that said the tropical hibiscus can't tolerate temperatures below 50 degrees. The article suggests bringing the pot inside in the winter. Now if you're talking hardy hibiscus – no problem in our climate. I've had one since probably year 2 here and it still blooms every July or August with huge blooms. I prune it back in the spring back to about 7-8" from the ground but it comes back every year and I don't spend much time with it. If you have a plant that dies back in the winter and your landscaper put it in, ask him if it was guaranteed. If it died because of the frost, don't bother with that same plant again get something that can handle our frost that doesn't require hand-holding, special lighting, tarp covering, etc. Life is too short to protect plants like that. I guess since I'm busy with work I don't have time to babysit plants. It's survival of the fittest the last few years. Maybe when life slows down I'll do more babysitting of plants but not happening this year.

If you need a place to go for Poinsettias or dish gardens you should head over to Duarte's Nursery in Hughson. They are opening November 15 with their beautiful poinsettias and planted decorative gardens. They are the only grower I know that has so many beautiful varieties of Poinsettias, pink, cream, variegated, spotted. This is not your Costco poinsettia!!! Arrive early to avoid being disappointed. The poinsettias make wonderful gifts for the holidays and are wonderful in baskets or large containers. Make sure you have a large trunk and bring boxes to keep the plants from tipping over. They're showstoppers. www.Duartenursery.com. Save water where you can!

Watering Rules in Manteca by Sandi Larson, Master Gardener

I have started to really realize how serious this drought situation is. I have to admit the last time we had a drought I don't remember thinking very seriously about it. On a recent afternoon going up to Apple Hill, I was surprised to see so many stressed and dying shrubs and trees along Highway 50. I've never seen that! With this serious drought, I have been saddened to read about water shortages particularly with some of these mobile home communities in the foothills actually running out of water. They are having water trucked in to their communities. I can't imagine what it's like for those folks. Many people who have previously relied on wells are now getting permits to drill new wells. Now I can see we have new water rules in Manteca which come into effect mid-December but fully in place on January 1, 2015. There are serious fines for not complying with these new rules. I have actually been waiting for the City of Manteca to mandate stricter watering rules. Most of us will start cutting back on watering for sure by November as there is more moisture on the ground. Let's all pray for rain!



City of Manteca New Mandatory Watering Rules

Banning all outdoor watering on Mondays

- Odd-numbered businesses and residential street address will be allowed to water Wednesday, Friday and Sunday but not between noon and 6 p.m.
- Even numbered businesses and residential addresses will be allowed to water Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday but not between noon and 6 p.m.
- Water conservation measures instead of just taking place during Daylight Savings will be implemented year round. That includes: no washing of non-landscaped exterior ground areas without a permit, not allowing water to flow into the gutter or a drainage area for a period exceeding five minutes and making it unlawful or wash automobiles or boats without a positive shut-off muzzle or a bucket and sponge.
- First time violators will receive a written notice and a \$50 fine. The fine, though, may be waived if a violator attends a brief water conservation seminar offered by the Public Works Department. The seminar will allow violators the opportunity to gain a greater knowledge of the city's water system as well as the importance of water conservation to the community.
- All subsequent violations will carry a penalty of \$250 per occurrence.



Do you enjoy gardening? Do you live in San Joaquin County? Are you willing to volunteer your time and talent?

The San Joaquin UC Master Gardener program is recruiting new volunteers!

Applications for the Master Gardener program are being accepted now. The deadline to apply is November 15, 2014. The five-hour classes will be conducted Wednesday mornings (8:30 am to 1:30 pm). Attendance is mandatory at all classes. Classes are held in the UCCE Office. For more information and application, please visit the Master Gardener's website at: http://sjmastergardeners.usanr.edu/Becoming_a_Master_Gardener/

Plant of the Month for November 2014 by Eric Teberg

Salvia Leucantha (Mexican Bush Sage)

Mexican Bush Sage is a mounding evergreen, flowering shrub. Gray-green foliage holds velvety flowers in the warm season. Good border or specimen.

Light: Full Sun
Height & width: 3-5 ft.
Bloom: Purple and white flowers
Water: Drought tolerant
Hardiness: Zones 12-24



Salvia Greggii (Autumn Sage)

Autumn sage is a soft, mounding shrub normally with small, minty aromatic green leaves that are evergreen in warmer climates. The flowers are borne on racemes from spring to frost and can be red, pink, purple, orange, or white. Its natural range is from south-central and west Texas south to San Luis Potosi in Mexico, mostly on rocky slopes.

Light: Full Sun
Height & Width: 1-4 ft.
Bloom: Red and white flowers
Water: Drought tolerant
Hardiness: Zones 8-24



Refreshments by Kay Harris and Gail Pace

The following members have volunteered to bring refreshments to the November 17, 2014 Garden Club Meeting:

Donna Brown
Joan Cannon
Rita Canales
Pam Dias
Paula Elias
Gloria Martinez
Barb Stoner



Refreshments start at 12:30pm. Any questions, please call Kay Harris @ 209-823-6366 or e-mail: snoopi43@comcast.net.

November Birthdays

6	Sharon Villarreal	11	Edie Brown
7	Tom Savage	21	Gayle Foster
8	Rescha Bistrong	22	Wil Harmon
10	Alice Machado	24	Angelina Kier
10	Eric Teberg		





Manteca Garden Club (MGC) Art Contest

Open call to Manteca Unified School District Art Students
Prize \$100

The one winning art will be donated to the MGC to be used for the May 9, 2015 MGC garden tour as the Grand Door Prize. The winning art will be displayed on the MGC tour posters, social media and at the last garden on the garden tour. The Manteca Bulletin may also interview the winning artist. Each year the proceeds from the MGC support awarding three \$1000 MUSD High School senior scholarships. The MGC is a non profit organization.

Rules:

- Artist must be a MSUD art student
- Participating artists must register at mantecagardenclub@gmail.com by November 15, 2014 with name, school, email and telephone number
- Theme—Garden Related
- Art no older than 2013
- One entry per artist
- Open to all 2D paintings and drawings including oil, acrylic, pastels, ink, graphite, etc.
- No photos or digital art
- Size - no larger than 16x20 – work may be framed or unframed

Important Dates

- Saturday, November 15, 2014 – art contest participating artist registration closes
- Monday, February 16, 2015 - Art to be delivered to the Manteca Garden Club at the Manteca Library, Mc Fall Room, Central Avenue, Manteca between 10a.m. and 12:30p.m..
- Tuesday, February 17, 2015 - Judging Panel (made up from Manteca Garden Club and Art Guild members)
- Thursday, February 20, 2015 - Winner will be announced to MUSD point of contact

For questions, Paula Elias, MGC President 239-5104 or mantecagardenclub@gmail.com

All artists will have the option of displaying their art work at the Manteca Garden Club Garden Tour on Saturday, May 9, 2015. Details will be shared with artists on February 16, 2015.

www.mantecagardenclub.org and Find us on FB at Manteca Garden Club

Forcing Bulbs to Bloom

Forcing bulbs to bloom for special occasions can be a fun and rewarding experience. Some of the bulbs that work are daffodils, tulips, paperwhites, hyacinth, and amaryllis. For forcing tulips and several of the other bulbs follow these directions:

Materials

- 1-6" to 8" red clay pot
- Piece of screen or shade cloth
- Gardner & Bloome Bulb Planting Mix or Potting Soil
- 6 - to 8 tulip bulbs (preferably pre-chilled 6 weeks or more)
- Bulb Fertilizer



Directions

- 1) Pre-soak red clay pot so it will not draw water from soil.
- 2) Cover drain hole with screen.
- 3) Fill pot with soil, tamping it down as you go until pot is 2/3 full.
- 4) Add 1/2 cup fertilizer to top of soil.
- 5) Place bulbs on fertilizer with their flat side against wall of pot. Tips of bulbs should be level (or nearly so) with lip of pot.
- 6) Add soil to top of pot, tamping it down gently.
- 7) Water thoroughly or soak in basin of water.
- 8) Place pot in very cool (40 – 50 F), dark location for about 12 weeks until shoots appear.
- 9) Check soil moisture weekly and water as needed.

- 10) When shoots appear, move pot gradually into bright light. They should finish in a sunny window indoors or outdoors in morning sun.
- 11) Keep soil moist throughout bloom. • Other bulbs that can be forced this way: Daffodils, Dutch Iris & Hyacinth.

Tip: Choose tulip bulbs that are plump and firm, preferably with their skin intact. Chill the bulbs in a paper bag in the crisper of your refrigerator. Do NOT put them in the freezer. Forcing hyacinth and paper whites in a jar:

Materials

- Hyacinth Glass, Glass Vase with neck
- Large Bulb

Directions

- 1) Place bulb in glass.
- 2) Fill with water to just touching base of bulb.
- 3) Place glass in a cool (40-50°F), dark spot (so roots can grow) about 4 weeks until shoots appear. Check water level often and refill as needed to base of bulb.
- 4) When shoots appear, move glass gradually into bright light.

Other bulbs that can be forced this way include Amaryllis, and Paperwhite Narcissus.



Is it time to clean out your garden shed and make room for new treasures or projects? Then maybe you can **recycle** unwanted garden tools, pots, soil, seeds, plant cuttings, fertilizer, rocks, hardware, leftover building supplies by passing them on to a fellow gardener? Help **reduce** landfills by sharing your “old” garden stuff with a Manteca Garden Club member who will **reuse** it for another purpose or project!

Bring your small items to the next club meeting, and display on the “share” table. All items must be given FREE for the purpose of **recycling**. If you have larger items, then please announce at the group meeting or fill out an information tag with details including your contact info and place the tag on the table for sharing.

Share creative ideas with other Manteca Garden Club members. Send us a picture of your completed **reuse** projects and we will include it on the Garden Club website or post on our Facebook page.

Let the club know if you are working on a special project and just maybe someone will have that perfect FREE item or material to help you get the job done. Be specific on your wants and we can ALL help **reduce** what gets trashed.

Do you have a **recycle** collection and are always on the hunt for more **reuse** items? Let your fellow club members know what you need. They just might have that perfect new addition you have been looking for

For questions or to volunteer help call club member Suzanne Clemens at 209-815-7039. Remember to “share”

- WANTED:** Broken clay pots or chards for use as gravel/filler in stone walls and rock garden. Suzanne Clemens 209-815-7039
- WANTED:** Small boat for use in dry creek bed, wood or aluminum, no fiberglass please. Hole in boat ok. Dena Rossi, 209-609-6954.
- FREE:** Landscape timbers, treated, appx. 8" x 10". You haul away. Tom Savage, 209-824-7908.